

RCP:vjs 10/16/06 569295 148422.01
PATENTAttorney Reference Number 3382-55844-01
Application Number 09/401,068RECEIVED
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Remarks

This Amendment responds to the Office action ("Action") mailed August 10, 2006.

In the Action, the Examiner allowed claims 18, 24, 26, and 27. Additionally, the Examiner indicated that claims 13, 14, and 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the language of any base and intervening claims. The Examiner rejected claims 1-12, 15-17, 19, 20, 25 and 28. The Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections. In the interest of expediting allowance of the application, however, the Applicants have done the following:

- (1) The Applicants have canceled claim 1.
- (2) The Applicants have moved language from "objected-to" claim 13 to claim 2.
- (3) The Applicants have canceled claim 13.
- (4) The Applicants have amended claim 14 to depend from claim 2.
- (5) The Applicants have canceled claim 19.
- (6) The Applicants have moved language from "objected-to" claim 21 to claim 20.
- (7) The Applicants have canceled claims 21, 25, and 28.

Claims 2-12, 14-18, 20, 24, 26, and 27 are allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Request for Initialed Forms 1449

Applicants respectfully note that the Action does not include initialed copies of two pages of Forms 1449 which were previously filed in the instant application. Applicants note that the *U.S. Patent Documents* section of the Form 1449 which was filed with an IDS on *October 4, 2002*, was not initialed. Applicants also respectfully note that *Page 2* of the Form 1449 which was filed with an IDS on *February 1, 2006*, was not initialed. Applicants request the Examiner provide an initialed copy of *Page 2* of the Form 1449 submitted on *February 1, 2006*, as well as an initialed copy of the Form 1449 submitted on *October 4, 2002*. Applicants will gladly provide copies of the Forms 1449 and cited references upon request.

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Attorney Reference Number 3382-55844-01
Application Number 09/401,068***Request for Interview***

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office Action in order to arrange a telephonic interview.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

Conclusion

A Notice of Allowance for the remaining claims is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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